GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1369
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2004
POTATO EXPORT
Panda Shri Prabodh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of potato exported during the year 2003-2004;

(b) whether the Union Government has any plan to boost the export of potato in view of its increased production; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

a): The total quantity of potato exported during the year 2003-2004 (April to September) is 28,729 MTs. (Source: DGCI&S Provisional).

b)& c): Steps taken by the Government to boost the export of potato include inter-alia the following:-

Identifying the major potato production areas and setting up of exclusive Agri Export Zones (AEZs) on potatoes in the States of Uttar Pradesh (UP), Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal with a view to adopt better pre-harvest and post-harvest practices, production and distribution of quality seeds to farmers, and better price realisation to them.
Providing financial assistance under various plan schemes of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).
Transport assistance provided by APEDA, and the State Government of UP and Punjab.
Organising an international interactive workshop exclusively on potato during the AAHAR international event in March 2003.
Organising international workshop cum buyer seller meet at Modipuram with buyers from Bangladesh, Pakistan, Uzbekistan and UAE to promote export of potato and potato products by APEDA and Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI) in March 2004.